



Fact Sheet

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

WTO and Agriculture **What's at Stake for Oregon?**

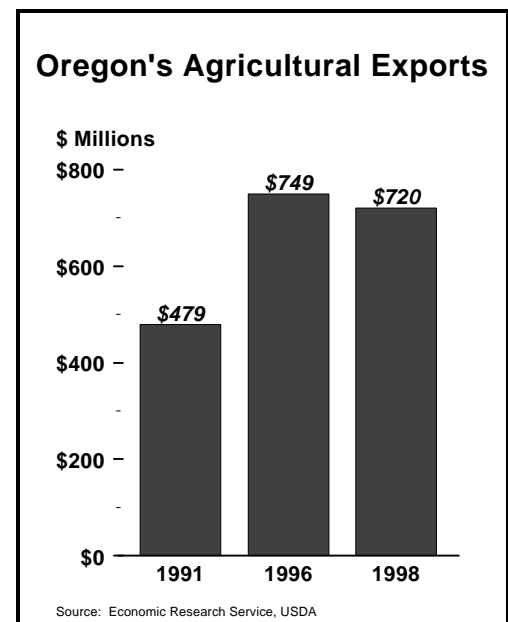
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Oregon is the nation's largest producer of solid wood products and an important producer of agricultural goods that are exported worldwide. The state's forest product shipments and farm cash receipts totaled \$9.5 billion in 1996 and \$3.1 billion in 1998, respectively. As for exports, Oregon's agricultural sales overseas were estimated at \$720 million in 1998. These exports help boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 10,900 jobs both on and off the farm in food processing, storage, and transportation. Exports are increasingly important to Oregon's agricultural and state-wide economy. Measured as exports divided by farm cash receipts, the state's reliance on agricultural exports has ranged from 19 percent to 23 percent since 1991.

The top five agricultural exports in 1998 were:

- # planting seeds -- \$169 million
- # vegetables -- \$165 million
- # wheat and products -- \$103 million
- # fruits -- \$92 million
- # tree nuts -- \$37 million

World demand for these products is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Oregon's farmers, ranchers, and food processors are to compete successfully for the export opportunities of the 21st century, they need *fair trade* and *fair access* to growing global markets.



Oregon Benefits From Trade Agreements

Oregon already benefits from a number of agricultural trade agreements. While there is still much to be done, examples of new market opportunities for Oregon include:

- # Under the Uruguay Round, major U.S. trading partners are reducing their tariffs 28 percent on average for wood products.
- # Oregon, a large wheat producer, benefits under the Uruguay Round from a 33-percent reduction in the quantity of EU wheat receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is expanding its 5,530,000 ton tariff-rate quota by 35,000 tons annually from 1995 to 2000.
- # Oregon benefits from the Uruguay Round as Japan and Korea reduce tariffs on processed fruits.
- # Oregon benefits under the Uruguay Round as the EU reduces its tariff on U.S. wine from 30.9 cents

to 19.8 cents per liter by 2000. Japan is reducing its wine tariff from 21.3 percent to 15 percent by 2000. Japan is also reducing its beef tariffs from 50 percent to 38.5 percent. Korea will eliminate its beef import quota by 2001 and reduce its tariffs to 40 percent by 2004.